

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A press bending station includes an annular mold (5)
5 and a full-face mold (6). Holes (10), selectively connected
to a negative pressure source, are placed in portions of
the full-face mold (6) that are determined by the
configuration of the annular mold when the annular mold
comes into contact with a heated glass sheet (2) during the
10 press bending process. The sheet (2) is drawn by negative
pressure through the holes (10) towards the full-face mold
(6) and thus acquires its shape. Positive pressure may be
selectively applied to the holes (10) to release the sheet
(2). According to the invention, at least some of the holes
15 (10) are arranged in at least one groove (11) formed in the
mold face of the full-face mold. The grooves (11) according
to the invention accelerate considerably the removal by
negative pressure of the air between the molding face of
the full-face mold (6) and the glass sheet (2) to be bent
20 and thus improve the press bending process.